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Brooklyn's Weekly Newspaper



Published weekly by Brooklyn Paper Publications at 26 Court St., Brooklyn, NY 11242 Phone 718-834-9350 © Brooklyn Paper Publications • 14 pages including GO BROOKLYN • Vol. 26, No. 46 BWN • November 17, 2003 • FREE



Those we lost

Vietnam War veteran William Billifore pays his respects at the Korean War Memorial in Cadman Plaza Park at Tillary Street on Veterans Day, Tuesday, Nov. 11.

New Nets bid

The Brooklyn Papers

Three investment groups seeking to buy the New Jersey Nets — including Mettech developer Bruce Ratner — have submitted revised bids, but another unexpected fourth bidder has also reportedly made an offer for the NBA team.

The bids were received Monday by YankeeNets, the sports conglomerate that owns the Nets and the NHL's New Jersey Devils.

The downtown Brooklyn developer submitted a revised bid, as did Charles Wang, founder of Computer Associates and owner of the New York Islanders hockey team, although specifics of those bids were not made public.

None of the four bids exceeded \$300 million, and the highest one was separated from the lowest by about \$30 million.

Developer Charles Kushner and Sean Coughlin, D-N.J. leaders of the only group that would keep the team in New Jersey, bid \$250 million for the team, Star-Ledger of Newark reported in Tuesday's editions. It cited unidentified officials with knowledge of the offer.

Meanwhile, the New York

Times reported Tuesday that the new bidder had formerly expressed interest in buying the Milwaukee Bucks but is not known in most sports circles. It also was not known if the unidentified bidder had spent time with Nets management or examined the team's finances.

It remains unclear when or if a deal will be made with any of the bidders.

If Rater emerges the winner,

he has proposed a 20,000-seat arena and 5,500 units of residential housing over the Metropolitan Transportation Authority's plan.

See NETS BID on page 5



The "Oracle" of Flatbush Avenue gives its opinions on former Yankees coach Don Zimmer, and possibly Red Sox pitcher Pedro Martinez.

'Queer' guy has eye for Atlantic Avenue

By Deborah Kolben

The Brooklyn Papers

After two years of major renovation, a new 58-unit luxury rental building — actually a row of buildings — is preparing to open on Atlantic Avenue near Henry Street.

While the developers have painstakingly restored the city landmark-designated facades and equipped some of the

apartments with fireplaces and decks, the main executive architect of the project known as "The Atlantic" may be the model apartments, which are getting the "Queer Eye" treatment.

Thom Filicia, the interior designer on the set of this season's biggest television hit, "Queer Eye for the Straight Guy," broadcast on NBC's Bravo network and periodically on NBC, has been hired by the Manhattan-based



developers of the apartments between Henry and Green streets — Simon Development Group and Shore Assets — to decorate two model apartments, which will be marketed early next month.

In addition, Filicia and the elite team of gay style mavens known collectively as the "Fab Five" go overboard turning a straight guy "from drab to fab" in just one day, usually with a special date, even or

other important event in mind.

Filicia, 33, an interior designer whose work has been featured in House & Garden, Details and the New York Times, generally trades the straight guy's abode and then completely redecorates it helping him pick out new furnishings and even painting the entire place.

Now Filicia is once again racing the clock as he prepares

The Atlantic for an opening

party of its own to welcome first real estate brokers on Dec. 3. (The Corcoran Group Brooklyn is the exclusive broker for the apartments, but the developers are hoping to encourage co-brokering with other real estate firms.)

"Thom is a friend and is very talented. I thought it would be fun for him to do it," said developer Jonathan Simon.

Calling The Brooklyn Pa-

pers while on location taping a "Queer Eye" episode in Greenpoint on Wednesday, Filicia said he hoped the model apartments would offer some guidance to The Atlantic's new residents.

He envisions a studio apartment — which Filicia envisions as a "stylish hotel room" — he went to town with chandelier paint and lots of color.

"During the week you do

See ATLANTIC on page 2

Soon to be Saturday...

- Bay Ridge author collects recipes of famous artists
- Ft. Greene home inspires Carla Cook
- Sabre Mochachino's fashion sense

Terror on ice

Feds: Slope creamery funded Qaeda

By Deborah Kolben

The Brooklyn Papers

The owner of a small Park Slope ice cream shop was dishing out more than pralines and cream from his Fifth Avenue storefront, federal prosecutors charge, he was helping fund al Qaeda.

Alfred Elfgeeh, 54, the proprietor of the Carnival French Ice Cream store between 10th and 11th streets, who lived three floors above the store, funneled millions of dollars out of the country, according to federal prosecutors.

According to an FBI affidavit discovered that Elfgeeh had hidden through the ice cream shop's bank accounts between 1997 and early this year.

Elfgeeh pleaded guilty last month in a case that seemed like a money-laundering and tax evasion scheme never mentioned terrorism.

A review of court files by the Associated Press revealed that prosecutors believe Elfgeeh was an associate of a fellow Vietnamese immigrant, Hau Al-Mayad, who is deceased in Germany with helping bankroll al Qaeda with money to be sent to the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

Elfgeeh has denied any connection to Qaeda.

His attorney, Dawn Cardi, has accused the government of having "a vendetta" against her client, who is awaiting a possible 10-year sentence.

"It's really despicable and disgusting, quite frankly," she said at a recent hearing.

Elfgeeh has petitioned the court to allow

Cards — who was released under house arrest after posting a \$5 million bond — to attend mosque prayer sessions on a daily basis during the holy period of Ramazan.

In his plea, Elfgeeh, 48, said he began informally transferring money for family and friends in 1995 for a fee. As "the money grew," he "intended to get a license, but never got around to it," he said.

It remains unclear when or if a deal will be made with any of the bidders.

If Rater emerges the winner,

he has proposed a 20,000-seat arena and 5,500 units of residential housing over the metropolitan Transportation Authority's plan.

See NETS BID on page 5



Feds have charged the owner of Carnival Ice Cream, on Fifth Avenue between 10th and 11th streets, with funneling money to al Qaeda.

Elfgeeh, on the surface, would seem an unlikely threat to national security. He was born in Germany, studied 30 years with a ninth-grade education, and became a citizen five years later. He was in the ice cream business for 20 years, and had no previous arrests.

News cameras and reporters showed up in the shop Monday morning and workers in nearby stores said they were in shock.

"I don't know how somebody can launder \$20 million out of a stupid ice cream shop," said a salesman at Digi City, a cell phone store next door to Elfgeeh's shop.

The salesman — who described himself as the "only Jewish guy in the business" — said he had a good relationship with the family and often did business with the son.

"I still see them around all the time," the salesman said of Elfgeeh and his family.

"They were so nice. I can't understand why they stand," said Pat, an employee at Alturas, a 50-year-old card shop across Fifth Avenue.

"I used to buy my milk there, it seemed like TERROR on page 5

No to Tubman

CB2 votes down 'Harriet Tubman Blvd'

The Brooklyn Papers

In a surprising vote counter to the recommendation of its traffic and transportation committee, Community Board 2 on Wednesday night rejected

a proposal to rename Fulton Street for Harriet Tubman, the Underground Railroad pioneer who freed hundreds of slaves.

The 23-14 vote followed a raucous

debate among board members — as well as Sen. Schatzkin of Montgomery, a local politician — over the renaming measure — over issues of racial sensitivity and historical revision.

When board member Anthony Ibelli questioned Tubman's historical significance to Brooklyn, said "She was on the Underground Railroad," she waved as she went through on the train," in reference to Tubman, Montgomery jumped out of her seat.

"This is quite a name for me," she shouted at Ibelli. "This does have anything to do with Brooklyn. This has to do with — she was an African-American and a great African-American woman."

Her fury mounting, Montgomery told him, "This is absolutely a racist statement."

Also surprising to many in attendance was the about-face vote of the transportation chairman, Nancy Wozniak, who previously voted in favor of renaming Fulton Street to honor Tubman. The committee voted 8-1 in favor of the renaming.

Using the full board meeting, held in a panel room of St. Francis College in Brooklyn Heights Wednesday night, the committee vote was held in a small classroom at Downtown Brooklyn's New York City of Technology, most of whose attendees were members of vocal proponents of the renaming measure.

The measure that CB2 rejected would have renamed Fulton Street from Classon Avenue to Flatbush Avenue. The stretch between Flatbush Avenue and Adams Street in Fulton Mall — would have been co-named.

Community Boards 3, 5 and 16, whose communities are largely black and which share the same nine-mile stretch that runs from Fulton Street in Downtown Brooklyn to Cypress Hills on the Queens border, have already passed the measure.

Deborah Kolben

Prophet margin

'Oracle' drawing masses in search of truth

By Deborah Kolben

The Brooklyn Papers

For the past two months, a small but growing crowd has gathered from as near as the Yummy Taco restaurant across the street and as far as Oklahoma have gathered outside Gino's Pizzeria, on Flatbush Avenue and Bergen Street, every Friday afternoon.

The assembled come seeking not the chicken calzone, which is quite good, but rather the advice of a Brooklyn-born soothsayer who speaks to the future and answers questions about the Pintchka's decorating store across the street.

The Oracle, as he is commonly known, is available for free consultation one day a week — generally on Fridays — through the news ticker-

style sign owned by the third-generation, family-run hardware store.

Once devoted to normal commercial enterprises, like advertising sales on gallons of Benjamin Moore paint, the 12-year-old, LED sign brings this street-level business to life.

"There was a technical difficulty and we could only put up one message," explained owner Matthew Pintchik. "I thought, what else to do but thank Mr. Brooklyn."

So for three months, passersby on the busy intersection near the entrance to the highway stay and wait with an eye to the borough's biggest booster.

Borough President Marty Markowitz loves Brooklyn and Brooklyn loves Borough President Brooklyn and Brooklyn loves Borough President Brooklyn.

See PROPHET on page 5

Classifieds page 4, GO-6
GO Brooklyn 8 pages follows page 4
Health Improvement GO-7
Health, Mind & Body GO-8
Parents page 5
Police back page
Real Estate GO-6



9-11 heroes from B'klyn added to wall

By Jotham Sederstrom
The Brooklyn Papers

Firefighter Joseph Patrick Henry, of Gravesend, was just 25 when he died in the World Trade Center attacks. The street on which he grew up, Bay 44th Street between Coney Island Avenue and Shore Parkway, now bears his name, as does a path leading to the beach he loved in.

His mother, Alice Henry, has been most involved with a different memorial, which until recently failed to include her son's name. That memorial, a 20-foot wall of granite, was first unveiled Dec. 15, but because of space and funding, stood only as a tribute to the men and women who worked in Brooklyn firehouses, precincts and emergency services.

"Henry was a firefighter," said Ladder 21 in Manhattan, and dozens of other emergency responders who died on 9-11, lived in Brooklyn but were stationed in other departments. "He was beautiful," Alice Henry said, of the Wall of Remembrance, "but 'Joey' wasn't on it."

That all changes on Sunday, Nov. 16, when she and Sonny, the dog she found three behind the memorial, will unveil to the public an expanded wall with 39 added names. Of the new honorees, Moglen said 21 firefighters will join the 116 originally memorialized on the wall, which now measures 26 feet long.

Eleven city police officers



A member of the Fire Department spots a friend lost to 9-11 on memorial wall outside Keyspan Park in Coney Island.

and seven Port Authority police officers will also be added. "We're so grateful that finally I didn't know a single firefighter," said Moglen. "Now, I know most of their families."

Moglen, 64, who owns a plastics company in New Jersey, recalls that when he first suggested the project last year to Rabbi Joseph Potasnik, a

Fire Department chaplain, dozens jumped on board. "We thought we had to do it," he said. "We got support from businesses through support from businesses like the Second Avenue Deli in the East Village, Keyspan Energy in Downtown Brooklyn and the Astroland Amusement Park in Coney Island."

The memorial, he said, initially cost \$140,000, but the

extra six feet of wall and new granite plaques cost another \$60,000. The plaque itself is 16 inches square and includes laser-engraved names and photos on plaques. Two bronze statues of firefighters from Sunoco Park and Park Slope serve as the memorial's centerpiece.

"There's no employees,

there's no benefits. All the pro-

ceeds go to the wall," said Moglen.

Rabbi Kasten, whose United States Bronze Sign Company was commissioned to design the wall, said that the new additions have been placed on either side of the original granite piece, with 21 firefighters featured on the left and seven Port Authority and 11 NYPD po-

lice officers on the right.

"There are monuments all over, but this is truly the first one that depicts them by face, not just names and numbers," said the sales manager at the Long Island-based company. "When you see the face, it's the beginning, you start to learn about these people."

Moglen was first introduced to Kasten after he spotted an advertisement for the company in a religious magazine. After a call by Moglen, Kasten signed on to the project imme-

dately, partly as a gesture to his friend, Christopher Pickford, a firefighter with Engine 201 in Sunset Park, who also died in Sept. 11.

"It was a very small-scale idea at first," said Kasten. "Sol was telling me that this was for people who were born in Brooklyn or lived in Brooklyn. But the irony for me was that I live in New York, and I work in Brooklyn."

Moglen, founder of the Elbets Field Wall of Remembrance Foundation, which

built the wall in collaboration with the Brooklyn Cyclones, the Fire Department, the Uniformed Fire Officers Association and the Brooklyn Firefighters Association, expects more than 1,000 people to come to the park Sunday.

The public is welcome to attend the 1 p.m. ceremony. Plans being held for the likeness of Detective Michael J. Murphy, a police officer and firefighter who died to be given to the families of all 155 police officers and firefighters memorialized on the wall.



These cops are tops

Police officers from the 78th Precinct in Park Slope show off their honors during Medal Day, held at the Prospect Park Picnic House on Tuesday, Nov. 11.

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Public meets over Gowanus future

By Deborah Kolben
The Brooklyn Papers

The Gowanus Canal has come a long way since its notorious days as a conduit of stench.

And now the group assigned to study future use for the canal — the Gowanus Canal Community Development Corporation (CDC) — is inviting the public to weigh in on what it wants to see along the mile-and-a-half stretch of manmade waterway.

At two community visioning sessions to be hosted by the CDC next week, the public is being asked whether they want, among other things, cafés, a marina, boating and water taxi on and along the canal.

"We really need to talk to them about is public access," said CDC executive director Jeanne DiLascio.

The workshops will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 18 at St. Peter's Paul's Church on the corner of Carroll and Hicks streets, from 10 am to 1 pm, and at the St. Thomas Aquinas Church at Ninth Street and Fourth Avenue from 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm.

For decades, the community has been calling for a cleaner Gowanus Canal that supports a mix of manufacturing, residential and recreation uses. Some have even dreamed of turning the canal into "Brooklyn's Venice."

For the past year, the 25-year-old CDC has been devising plans to create a public walkway along the Gowanus. But various groups have been butting heads over whether to maintain the waterfront's in-

dustrial use or develop residential housing.

Some have complained that the Gowanus Canal has come a long way since its notorious days as a conduit of stench.

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sive community development plan — and I want the best planners for the job to do it," said DiLascio.

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apartments come with private roof decks and 12 are equipped with fireplaces.

Units will range from \$1,650 to \$2,200 a month for a two-bedroom with a roof deck, Simon said.

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A 40-pound yearling harp seal was discovered in the Gowanus after it jumped ashore in Red Hook in April.

ATLANTIC AVE...

Continued from page 1
what you do and bed or board on Friday or Saturday it can also work great as a little cocktail lounge. Plus, it's great for students.

For those of us who prefer to live in the small space, Filicaia opted for a regular bed covered in pillows that could also function as a party bed.

The bedroom is a bit more subdued and traditional, Filicaia said, adding that most of the furnishing came from Pier 1, Crate & Barrel and creations by her own hand. There Filicaia Inc. has created a small oasis in the middle of six dilapidated townhouses formerly owned by Long Island College Hospital that sat largely vacant for almost 20 years after the hospital abandoned plans to develop them as research and office facilities.

"They were a real eyesore," said Simon. "I would have been easier for us and more cost effective to knock the building down."

But because of the neighborhood's landmark designation, the developers were forced to

rebuild instead. The six separate facades were maintained, but the buildings are all connected and share a common lobby.

In addition to a gym and laundry room, four of the

apartments come with private roof decks and 12 are equipped with fireplaces.

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City has lofty goals for DUMBO

By Deborah Kolben
The Brooklyn Papers

Once home to some of the nation's largest manufacturers, DUMBO is finally beginning to live up to its potential, given time since given way to condominiums, high-end furniture stores and gourmet chocolate shops.

But despite its drastically changing character, zoning regulations for the trendy neighborhood nestled beneath the Manhattan Bridge overpass have remained largely man-

faturing.

"The city may change. The Department of City Planning spokeswoman told The Brooklyn Papers this week that its borough office was in the process of conducting an examination of DUMBO's zoning.

"We are studying what's happening and will see if there is a need to make changes," said spokeswoman Rachael Raynor.

That news was greeted with delight by residents of DUMBO — roughly bounded by

East River to the north, York Street to the south, Jay Street to the east, and Main Street to the west — who have long fought to have the neighborhood's zoning more accurately reflect its increasing residential character.

"The zoning dates back to the days when this was a manufacturing zone, but for close to 30 years people have been living and working here," said Marcia Hills, 44, a resident and founder of the DUMBO Neighborhood Association (DNA).

"Having some sort of zoning

to reflect what is actually happening makes sense," she said. Isaac Esterman, a project manager at Walentas' Two Trees Management, "The neighborhood has changed. Somebody needs to take a look at it and make decisions on zoning that make sense. It should be done for the whole neighborhood, not block by block."

In the past, individual parcels have been rezoned to allow for mixed-use developments, residential and commercial developments, but a large section in the middle remains zoned largely for manufacturing.

"It will certainly have an effect on buildings that the city may want to convert their buildings to residential," said Raymond Levin, a land use attorney and DUMBO resident.

Part of the neighborhood we're referring to allow legal buildings to remain in 1998. That year, DUMBO real estate mogul David Walentas converted the former manufacturing building at 1 Main St. into condominiums, the neighborhood's first such conversion.

The neighborhood is now a mixture of manufacturing, residential, and commercial zoning

all within a few square blocks.

Some residents have worried about maintaining the gritty industrial feel of DUMBO and are seeking additional measures on top of new zoning.

While the neighborhood is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, DNA is also pushing for city landmarks status, which is much more difficult to obtain but could preserve many of the industrial buildings.

"Outside of landmarks it's the best preservation tool we could use," Hills said of the potential rezoning.

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This 'new' old house needs rezoning, too

By Deborah Kolben
The Brooklyn Papers

For his most recent television episodes, home improvement guru Bob Vila swooped in on DUMBO where he renovated a dilapidated old pepper factory at 85 Water St. near Main Street.

With a newly restored red brick facade and completely restored interiors, the three floor-through apartments with blonde wood floors and high-tech toilets are what most would consider prime real estate in the trendiest part of the neighborhood between the Brooklyn and Manhattan bridges.

But don't expect to see moving trucks pulling up anytime soon.

The building is still zoned for manufacturing and the owner's application to convert it to residential use must pass through the city's lengthy land use review process.

That means the apartments will remain vacant and anyone

caught living in the building could face up to \$2,500, according to Department of Buildings spokesman Michael Saks.

DUMBO real estate mogul David Walentas, who owns the pepper factory and almost a dozen buildings in the area, received a permit from the Department of Buildings to renovate.

Walentas' son, Jed Walentas, told The Brooklyn Papers this week that the application had already been filed with the Department of City Planning.

"There is no holdout for market rates when the land use application is approved next spring," Walentas said.

Walentas' son, Vila, the three-story, broken-down building across from the Jacques Torres Chocolate Factory just long enough for him to restore it back to new and document it all for the television program.

It was not the typical project for Vila, who got his start in 1978 when the restoration of a Victorian Italianate home landed him in the pages of the *Architectural Record*. That article led to a PBS series called "This Old House." Since 1989, Vila has produced over 100 series of Bob Vila's Home Again. He has written almost a dozen books, not to mention inspiring and making guest appearances on *The Allen's Long-Run*, a 90s sitcom "Home Improvement."

Still, Vila got a television season out of it, and Walentas got an apartment building and a load of publicity for the burgeoning neighborhood. He's been building for the past decade.

"There are a number of things that are outstanding," says Frank, noting that a change in the building's zoning designation would have to become wheelchair accessible, unless Walentas applied for a waiver. She also said an application to modify the sprinkler system had not yet been approved.

The ground-floor retail space is slated for a bakery, but Jed Walentas said no particular operator had been chosen.



This building at 85 Water St. in DUMBO was refurbished by Bob Vila for his television program, "Home Again."

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TERROR...

Continued from page 1
 normal," added Eileen Perez, an assistant manager at the card shop, who described Carnaval French Ice Cream as a convenience store that sold everything from candy and cigarettes to milk and ice cream.

In his plea, Elifgeeh told a judge that he was asleep with his pregnant wife and their two federal agents from an anti-terrorism unit rounded on his door on Jan. 18.

The agents, who had a material witness warrant, intimidated him into consenting to a search, he said.

"I was terrified, very scared," he said. "Of course, we are hearing a lot since Sept. 11 about what happened to Arab men, what happened to Muslims who look like us."

Authorities said that documents seized in his shop revealed a pattern of deception.

The shop reported the ice cream shop had average annual revenue of about \$185,000. Yet court papers said that between November of 2001 and 2002 alone, there were more than \$5.3 million in deposits in Elifgeeh's bank accounts — money later transferred to foreign banks in Yemen and elsewhere.

Confirmation records for millions of dollars in transfers, investigators say they connected Elifgeeh to the Yemeni cleric following a sting operation by the FBI, in which he supplied \$20 million, recruits and weapons to Osama bin Laden, officials said.

Al-Masayyid allegedly named himself in New York as being Elifgeeh's contact, and claimed he transferred funds to him in Yemen. He also "said he received money for 'jihad' that was collected from the Al-Farouq [sic] Society," the court papers say. On Sept. 11, authorities have sought to dismantle the system, fearing it allows terrorists to raise and launder money.

Osama bin Laden has boasted that many Americans live in the Western financial system that "weren't as familiar to him and his Al Qaeda colleagues as to the Qaeda of their own hands," a recent congressional report warned.

In Brooklyn, federal investigators identified the mosque as a place of worship for terrorists plotting to burn who terrorized the world during the World Trade Center in 1993. Mosque leaders have dismissed any current connection.

While testifying at a sealed proceeding July, prosecutors pressured Elifgeeh to admit to one of the "plots" of Al-Masayyid — an allegation he denied.

Elifgeeh testified he "had heard" of the cleric, adding, "I do not know if he knew it."

The charges against Elifgeeh provide a look at the federal government's crackdown on informal money transfer networks known as "hawala," which derive from an Arabic word meaning "trust."

Muslim immigrants have used the networks — which rely on wire transfers, couriers and overnight mail — to send stash of cash over the ocean to loved ones.

Some of the defendants have been stashed in a suitcase on a flight to Egypt. Yemen-born Mohamed Ali Al-Sadawy, a U.S. citizen born in 1920, and the proprietor of a local gift shop, the Gift Shop on Atlantic Avenue, pleaded guilty in a separate case in which investigators say he made millions of dollars in unreported transfers to Yemen through his gift shop.

Defense lawyers deride the crackdown.

Prosecutors, the lawyers say, have unfairly linked their clients to terrorist plots and subjected them to interrogations and severe jail conditions — without actually charging them with terrorism.

Some of the defendants were legal U.S. citizens who were only trying to send money home to loved ones, said Peter Mollo, an attorney for Al-Hanani.

"They're looking for a bigger fish," Mollo said. "There is no bigger fish."

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"They're looking for a bigger fish," Mollo said. "There is no bigger fish."

PROPHET...

Continued from page 1
 Marty Markowitz," the sign read.

But then one day a man dressed in a tattered robe appeared in the hardware store and told Pintchik he wanted to preach to the masses. He asked if he could use the sign to do it. Pintchik donated the services of his sign.

So it was tough love for Markowitz, who got the boot in favor of the electronics salesman.

The Oracle, who is equipped with a thick wad of cash, turned out to be a well-known Shop author — the New York says it is one of their frequent contributors. 20-year-old Jonathan Lai, 19, whose book, "Everything is Illuminated," was published to critical acclaim in 2002 — although Pintchik preferred to keep an air of mystery around the Wizard of Oz-like author's identity.

Asked if he was the Oracle, Foer e-mailed The Brooklyn Papers, "I can neither confirm nor deny."

The only way to communicate with the Oracle is by stepping into an old phone booth, cranking up a candlestone, and taking it on the road. A phone, and a tape recorder, appears on the tickertape.

The booth appears for just three hours a week (apparently the Oracle has a good agent). And a good public relations firm.

The last time the Oracle's booth appeared, it drew an audience of more than 150.

On the first day, the afternoon and the staggering turnout could be attributed in part to a New York article published that week complete with a press release from the Oracle's hardware store, and has provided all Brooklynites with the opportunity to ask important questions, using a magical phone and device.

And while all this may draw in a good odd-jobber crowd, it's also folder for "The Next Big Thing," the public radio show that has chronicled the whole Oracle adventure.

During the Oracle's days off, which he likely spends slouched over his laptop computer, a few of his choice maxims are displayed ad nuseum on the board.

concert.

Then came Markowitz with one of his ubiquitous proclamations in hand, declaring the day "Pintchik Oracle Day in Brooklyn."

"Whereas, not since the days of Ancient Greece have we seen the Oracle and witnessed its magnificent power," the proclamation read, "the modern-day oracle has returned to Brooklyn via an oracle, billion-dollar Jewish小孩's hardware store, and has provided all Brooklynites with the opportunity to ask important questions, using a magical phone and device."

While all this fun may draw in a good odd-jobber crowd, it's also folder for "The Next Big Thing," the public radio show that has chronicled the whole Oracle adventure.

During the Oracle's days off, which he likely spends slouched over his laptop computer, a few of his choice maxims are displayed ad nuseum on the board.

This week's edition included: "There is no second place. Only loser"; "If Dr. Phil is such a diet guru why is he fat?" and "Looks are only important if you want to play sex."

Next week, the Oracle will be providing a love-line, of sorts, where people seeking dates can post a personal ad on the tickertape free of charge.

While all this fun may draw in a good odd-jobber crowd, it's also folder for "The Next Big Thing," the public radio show that has chronicled the whole Oracle adventure.

During the Oracle's days off, which he likely spends slouched over his laptop computer, a few of his choice maxims are displayed ad nuseum on the board.

ence champions, will now evaluate the offices and determine which offices will then decide which bidders to negotiate with, a process that may take several weeks to complete.

the failure to reach a deal for a sports arena planned for Newark.

Lehman Brothers and Goldman Sachs, the investment banks hired to handle the sale of the two-time Eastern Conference champion, will now evaluate the offices and determine which offices will then decide which bidders to negotiate with, a process that may take several weeks to complete.

For Greene, Prospect Heights, Boerum Hill and Park Slope converge at the intersection of many cultures and life-style studies. Residents say that the area is already too crowded and congested to support the development.

Pintchik, however, longs for neighborhood activism with the Prospect Heights Action Coalition, cited six studies during an anti-arena meeting in September that found new stadiums often have high hidden costs, serve as a magnet to the local community and create only low-wage, service jobs.

He is fully supported of MTA spokesman Tom Kelly. Rattner holds some sway, too, as the transit authority has a certain period of time, although the MTA would have to approve any specific development plans.

Rattner has hired renowned architect Frank Gehry, known for his design of the Guggenheim Museum Bilbao, in Spain, to design the arena.

But residents in the surrounding neighborhoods of Fort Greene and Prospect Heights have been vocal in their opposition.

NETS BID...

Continued from page 1
 Long Island Rail Road yards, roughly the same site where Brooklyn Dodgers owner Walter O'Malley had proposed in the 1950s to build a domed stadium.

Rattner, known for developing the Metrotech office complex in Downtown Brooklyn and the redevelopment of Atlantic Terminal after a retail and transit hub at Atlantic and Flatbush avenues, adjacent to the proposed arena site, holds the development rights to the neighboring Long Island Rail Road yards, which a sports complex would be built.

He has the full support of Borough President Marty Markowitz, who first voiced the notion of bringing a professional basketball team to the borough.

According to MTA spokesman Tom Kelly, Rattner holds some sway, too, as the transit authority has a certain period of time, although the MTA would have to approve any specific development plans.

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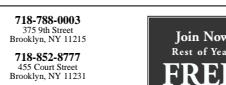
But residents in the surrounding neighborhoods of Fort Greene and Prospect Heights have been vocal in their opposition.

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Q: "My daughter was tested by the schools for attention deficit disorder. The results showed a host of misbehaviors that didn't make sense to me. She is not hyperactive but has trouble focusing. Math is her weakness. I am skeptical about all this but I'm supposed to take her to her pediatrician to see about medication?"

— a mother

A: Ask your plain English. Don't accept numbers that mean nothing to you.

Educate yourself about attention disorders, several readers suggest.

Parent and teacher observations count too, when the search is on for what's wrong and how to fix it.

The issue is complicated, and a parent can feel overwhelmed," says a mother from Rhode Island. "I hope the mother realizes she is not alone."

Is your daughter flitting through this picture?

The umbrella term for attention problems is attention-deficit-hyperactivity disorder, or ADHD. It's confusing. The term includes kids who are not hyperactive.

For students with an inattentive-type of ADHD, studies have shown that a combination of counseling and medication is the most effective treatment, says Kathleen G. Nadeau, PhD, co-author of "Understanding Girls with AD/HD" (Advantage Books).

"When treating ADHD, medication is often helpful, but it is only part of the treatment picture," says Nadeau, director of the Children Psychological Services in Rockville, Md.

"Medication doesn't fix all of the challenges of ADHD."

It's important to catch problems early.

A learning gap may occur when the demands on the child are greater, typically starting in third grade, teachers find.

This applies to the inattentive girls who have behavioral problems, as well as the more familiar ADHD type: a kindergartner spinning around the room who is absorbing everything, not paying attention to the classes, and fails to mind the house chores.

For girls, social problems at home and at school (getting along with peers, getting along with adults) may be addressed through counseling. Medication is not for everyone, she says, but it can help some children focus, concentrate when they listen better in class, and get school work done more efficiently.

If medication is prescribed, your child needs regular follow-up visits with the prescribing physician to monitor your child's physical health can be monitored. As a parent, you'll need to be on the lookout for side effects.

Many parents who resisted medication for their non-hyperactive daughters wished they had tried medication earlier, Nadeau has found.

One clinical psychologist notes a dramatic example of how a stimulant can work when all other avenues have been exhausted and problems such as anxiety have been treated.

She describes a kindergartner whose teachers thought she had a learning disability in reading. They said she was not even connecting sounds to letters.

The problem was that she didn't think the child could concentrate enough for any testing for a learning disability.

Three days after starting on medication, she was able to write a sentence. "I saw a cow." The child had absorbed what she had heard in school, and started writing down letters with a big smile.

To the girl's family, the growth was a huge leap — as big as the leap to medication.

Can you help?

"My 9-year-old daughter attended our friend's funeral. She did not seem affected until about six weeks later. Now she's afraid I'm not coming back. She has gotten so upset at school that she has pulled out of class."

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Associated Press

A witness corroborated police testimony that officers were acting in self-defense when they shot Gitone Busch in Brooklyn on Monday.

Lipa Ioinovitch, 34, was the first civilian to back the officers' account of the shooting. In testimony Monday, he said police opened fire only after Busch repeatedly lunged at them with a hammer.

Six witness corroborated police testimony that officers were acting in self-defense when they shot Gitone Busch in Brooklyn on Monday.

The case, being tried in Brooklyn federal court, was brought by the Busch family, who claim police used excessive force in the shooting. The lawsuit names the city and several officers present at the scene.

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The Brooklyn Papers' essential guide to the Borough of Kings

November 17, 2003

Food for thought

Bay Ridge author's new book cooks up the recipes of history's famed visual artists

By Tina Barry
for The Brooklyn Papers

"I wanted to create a book that is an honest account of what artists eat and cook," said Frank Fedele, who describes his first book, "The Artist's Palate: Cooking with the World's Great Artists."

Fedele's new book is a meeting of the gastronomic and visual arts. Eighty-nine artists past and present are revealed in the most intimate way — by the food they ate for sustenance and by what they consumed and shared with others for pleasure.

With recollections were sketchy or writing illegible, Fedele, of Bay Ridge, turned to well-known chefs to recreate some of the 129 recipes.

Over coffee in Park Slope's Ozzie's, Fedele, who describes himself as a "latent Dadaist and surrealist sculptor turned art dealer," sat down with chef Mario Batali for his unique cookbook and the six-year journey he took to research and write it.

"In 1995, I was curating a show and I mentioned to someone that I visit a lot of artist's studios and love the smell of their cooking," said Fedele. "They thought it sounded like a good idea and suggested I put it in a book. At first I thought I'd include only the living artists I knew. But the idea kept growing. Some said they knew of a Toulouse-Lautrec recipe, and after hearing that comment, I began to bring in artists of the past."

Though Frank Fedele Fine Arts on 57th Street in Manhattan, the gallery he owned from 1981-1994, he met and shared meals with many art world luminaries. Each artist in the book is described with a personal anecdote, or the recollections of friends or family members who knew them. Photos of the artists and excellent color reproductions of their work are included.

Rockwell's cookies

Norman Rockwell's Oatmeal Cookies, excerpted from "The Artist's Palate: Cooking with the World's Great Artists" (DK Publishing, 2003).

```

1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon baking soda
10 tablespoons butter
1 cup light brown sugar
1/2 cup granulated sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1 large egg, at room temperature
1 cup quick-cooking oatmeal

```

BOOKS

"The Artist's Palate: Cooking with the World's Great Artists" (DK Publishing, 2003) can be purchased at bookstores including BookCourt (163 Court St. between Dean and Pacific streets in Cobble Hill), Books & Books (Brooklyn Center, 267 Seventh Ave. at Second Street in Park Slope, (718) 832-9066) and A Novel Idea (880 Avenue C, at 84th Street in Bay Ridge, (718) 833-5115).

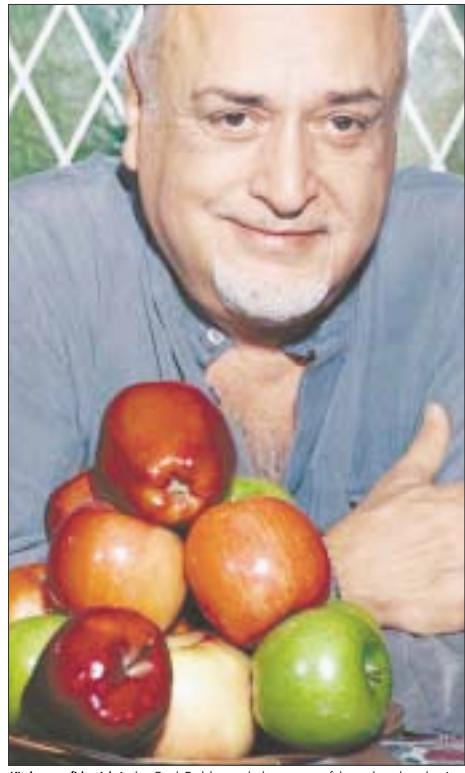
"Writing the book," said Fedele, "was like digging for dinosaur bones. I'd come across something, gently sweep away the dirt, and find a recipe."

"I had so many Eureka moments," he added. "I lived in the New York and Brooklyn libraries. I talked to relatives of artists and cooks all over the world. Sometimes I'd get a call from a friend who had a good idea for a book. At first I thought I'd include only the living artists I knew. But the idea kept growing. Some said they knew of a Toulouse-Lautrec recipe, and after hearing that comment, I began to bring in artists of the past."

While Fedele watched a television show about the restoration of the Sistine Chapel, an image flashed on the screen that looked like a grocery list. Fedele contacted the show's director who gave him the information he requested. His guess was confirmed.

"At first I thought I'd include only the living artists I knew. But the idea kept growing. Some said they knew of a Toulouse-Lautrec recipe, and after hearing that comment, I began to bring in artists of the past."

Though Frank Fedele Fine Arts on 57th Street in Manhattan, the gallery he owned from 1981-1994, he met and shared meals with many art world luminaries. Each artist in the book is described with a personal anecdote, or the recollections of friends or family members who knew them. Photos of the artists and excellent color reproductions of their work are included.



Kitchen confidential: Author Frank Fedele reveals the contents of the cupboards and recipes of famed visual artists.

and Swiss artist Paul Klee's "Taschenkalender (pocket diary menu)" with a recipe for bacon-spiced roast beef with burgundy sauce. (A reproduction of Klee's diary is displayed near the recipes.)

In the "Appetizers, Sides and Salads" section, Fedele writes, "Vincent van Gogh was too poor to afford meat and sustained himself through the act of painting. He had little interest in eating." When his hunger overwhelmed him, van Gogh ate bread, Gouda cheese and drabs absinthe, a liqueur made from anise and wormwood oil that caused hallucinations.

In the "Meals and Special Meals," Fedele quotes Peter Orstein, who became acquainted with Edward Hopper when Orstein worked for the Frank Rehn Gallery in New York. Orstein related how Hopper would eat a lunch he shared with Orstein and Hopper.

Drop by rounded teaspoons onto the baking sheet. Bake for 8-10 minutes or until golden. Allow the cookies to cool on the pan for five minutes, and then transfer to a rack.

Makes 3 dozen.

couldn't have known at the time," said Orstein, "but the Boppers were not gourmets; Mrs. Hopper didn't cook, and Mr. Hopper didn't care."

In researching "The Artist's Palate," Fedele unearthed correspondence between Norman Rockwell and his good friend George Washington Vanderbilt. There were lots of sweets that included the exchange of recipes. In the "Desserts" section, a copy of the recipe Rockwell sent to Moses for oatmeal cookies, created by his cook, Nellie Strudliski, is placed next to Moses' "Old-Fashioned Macaroons," a recipe she shared with Rockwell.

Contemporary figurative painter Phillip Pearlstein's banana splits; Abstract Expressionist Mark Rothko's apple pie; and American School painter Grant Wood's strawberry shortcake round out the chapter.

"The Artist's Palate" is a celebration of the art of cooking and eating. It's a history lesson as well as social commentary told through ancient grocery lists, many-course feasts and quickly assembled snacks.

For those who wonder what Picasso's favorite dish was (red in brandy sauce); what sort of Thanksgiving meal Andy Warhol enjoyed (chocolate cannolis); or what Andy Warhol served at his Thanksgiving table (middle American fare: turkey with gravy, green beans and sweet potatoes). "The Artist's Palate" has the answers.

BOOKS

Women Eat!

Superior restaurant in DUMBO will host "Women Who Eat," on Nov. 19, from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. The evening of readings will feature nine food writers who contributed essays to "Women Who Eat: A New Generation on the Glory of Food," edited by Leslie Miller (Seal Press, November 2003).

You won't find a calorie counter in this group of self-titled "flaming carnivores" and "ice cream addicts." Instead, the writers glory in the aroma of leeks sizzling in hot butter, or mangoes and think nothing of ordering dessert after a three-course meal.

Brooklynites who this collection include Carroll Gardens own Kate Sekules, the travel editor at Food & Wine magazine, whose search for a restaurant to call home is recounted in "On the Importance of Having a Restaurant." New York Times food critic Amanda Hesser, a Brooklyn Heights resident, who describes the anticipation of shopping and cooking dinner-for-one in "Fundamental Pleasures"; and journalist Lela Neff of Williamsburg who in "Food Before Sanity" dumps her therapist after being asked, "So you don't like being fat?"

Superior is at 126 Front St. between Jay and Pearl streets. For further information, call (718) 243-9005. The event is free and open to the public. — Tina Barry

ART

All dressed up

"A Stitch in Time," an installation of three dresses by Clinton Hill artist June Gaddy, is on display through Dec. 28 at the Brooklyn Public Library's Central Library.

The exhibit in the Lobby Gallery includes this mid-19th century life-size gown of Harriet Who Dreamed She Could Fly" (pictured). The 1897 dress is inspired by a biography of Harriet Tubman that said she dreamed she could fly before she fled to freedom, Gaddy told GO Brooklyn. The multimedia work is embellished with feathers at its cuffs, be-decked with cowrie shells and silk screened scenes of enslaved African Americans in its panels.

Gaddy's works are paired with pieces supplied by the Brooklyn Collection of the Brooklyn Public Library, of articles from the old Brooklyn Eagle that correspond with the themes of the dresses: Tubman speaking at the Bridge Street AME Church, Brooklyn's historic Weeksville and the migration of blacks to the North.

"I have always sewed, since I was small, and I hadn't thought of it as an art form," said Gaddy. "Then I encountered a professor at Brooklyn College, while she was pursuing her master's degree in Fine Arts, who encouraged the students 'to rethink the art process...Instead of rushing to an art store to buy supplies, to connect with materials...' I was like, 'Uh-oh,' " she said. "Using things on hand."

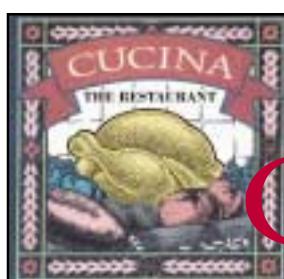
"My grandmother and my aunts made their own clothes, and dolls and doll furniture. This is something I had always done, and it's a way to connect with them," Gaddy said. "She was also inspired by a hunter's shirt from Mali she had seen on display at the Museum for African Art in SoHo."

"That hunter kept the shirt his whole life and it had hair, teeth, claws from different animals and different amulets and mirrors," said Gaddy. "It told this man's story as a hunter. It was very personal and meaningful to me. I thought, 'What could I use that idea in an American context?' It all came together at the same time to get me started."

Also on display is "Tir Na Og" (sic), an exhibition of artist books and dioramas by Windsor Terrace resident Rene Lynch, in the display cases on the second floor.

Lynch has designed each case as a complete environment, with masked dolls frolicking among cloth flowers, stuffed birds, and animals in settings that suggest a paradise lost, "the land of eternal youth" suggested by the Gaelic name "Tir Na Og." Fairytale-like books are also displayed with their pages open, revealing stories relating to the scenes in the cases.

The Central Library is located at Grand Army Plaza. For library hours and more information, call (718) 230-2100 or visit the Web site at www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org. — Lisa J. Curtis



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BROOKLYN Bites

Neighborhood Dining Guide

This week:
BAY RIDGE

Akri

7902 Third Ave., at 79th Street, (718) 228-7071
(AmEx, Disc, MC, Visa) Entrées: \$9-\$25.

Akri opened in September 2002 and continues to offer pasta, seafood and 100% Greek-style entrees. Akri offers rich sauces to accompany your steak; garlic butter, brandy cream, whiskey-mushroom-onion or rosemary-peppercorn. Appetizers range from classic mozzarella and tomatoes to an "assortment of Greek delights."

Barracuda Seafood Restaurant & Bar

7025 Third Ave., at 81st Street, (718) 833-7579
(AmEx, Disc, MC, Visa) Entrées: \$10-\$25.
Co-owner Willy Boncristiano celebrated the restaurant's grand re-opening on Nov. 11 and introduced his new chef, Steven Gutierrez, to the neighborhood. Boncristiano says he's been a fan of the fish since his upbringing near the Black Sea, where he ate fish every day and learned how to select the best catch through his father's guidance. On the menu this week, Boncristiano has turned to the Fulton Fish Market, where he buys the fresh fish that are then broiled, pan-fried, grilled or blackened. Free valet parking Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights.

Bay Ridge Sushi

6819 Third Ave., at 68th Street, (718) 491-0662
(AmEx, MC, Visa) Entrées: \$7.95-\$17.95.
Owner Steve Boncristiano celebrated the restaurant's 10th anniversary last month. You can see him or one of his sons at the counter. Boncristiano's menu includes tuna, salmon, yellowtail, scallops, fluke, mackerel, flying fish roe, crab stick and many more.

Of course, Bay Ridge Sushi hasn't forgotten all the classics. The menu includes a variety of rolls you can select from their colorful menu. There are many hand rolls, like the shrimp tempura roll and the baked salmon roll. Or try the pork with gyoza or sashimi, maybe the seafood tempura or lobster. Make sure to leave room for the tempura green tea ice cream!



Casa Calamari

8602 Third Ave., at 86th Street, (718) 921-1900
(AmEx, Disc, MC, Visa) Entrées: \$5-\$17.95.
Bosco's a large sidewalk eatery. Casa Calamari is a fun, family-oriented place that makes the most of its corner windows, its open kitchen and its raw bar. On the menu you'll find an "oyster index" — to guide you through the oysters. The menu also includes Creek and Nantucket and a few. Baked half chicken and broiled salmon round out the menu. Enjoy karaoke on Friday nights.

Omiya Japanese Restaurant

8618 Fourth Ave., at 86th Street, (718) 748-8899
(AmEx, Disc, MC, Visa) Entrées: \$13.95-\$31.95.

The classic steakhouse ... with a couple of twists. Your meal will be enhanced not only by the fresh glaze, but also by the choice of a dessert, either the Horse and Jockey Club (featuring CTB racing feeds and betting).

The Mexican Sandwich Company

8601 Fourth Ave., at 86th Street, (718) 748-4747
(AmEx, Disc, MC, Visa) Entrées: \$12-\$28.

This Bay Ridge restaurant is ornately decorated with arches of artificial flowers, private alcoves, and a large mural of a woman in traditional dress. Pazzo, which means "crazy" in Italian, offers a variety of wines and martinis, as well as mouthwatering pastas and pizzas. It also serves world-famous favorites with contemporary accents. Some of the highlights among the entrees include roast duck, filet mignon, scallops and jumbo shrimp with risotto. Pazzo also offers live entertainment Tuesday through Saturday nights.

Cebu

8801 Third Ave., at 88th Street, (718) 492-5095
(AmEx, Disc, MC, Visa) Entrées: \$9-\$22; plates: \$9-\$12.

Cebu offers a bar scene with dining. The menu is "Cebu-style," lots of salads, soups and seafood. Dishes range from fish and chips to steaks au poivre to whole lobster and blue point oysters.

Pearl Room

8201 Third Ave., at 82nd Street, (718) 833-6666
(AmEx, MC, Visa) Entrées: \$19-\$24.

This elegantly appointed, six-year-old restaurant offers continental cuisine with an emphasis on fresh seafood. Clams, scallops, mussels, lobsters, fresh fish and crabs make up popular dishes. But Pearl Room also serves filet mignon, shell steaks, chicken and veal, salads and soups. The banana split — made with vanilla ice cream and fried in banana bread — is a must-try delight! Garden and sidewalk seats available in season.

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The Brooklyn Papers / Greg Long

Seafood at Pearl Room.

Chadwick's Restaurant

8822 Third Ave., at 89th Street, (718) 833-9855
(AmEx, Disc, MC, Visa) Entrées: \$13-\$22.

Chef Russell Tittland wowed the crowd at Brooklyn Eats at the Brooklyn Museum's 10th Anniversary of the Best New Restaurants. The restaurant's signature dish, which is served every Saturday night, but you should make the trip to this 16-year-old Bay Ridge gem. The dish is a 16-ounce lamb chop with pachito-crusted rack of lamb with lyonnaise potato, sautéed spinach and fresh mint sauce, to the 24-ounce bone-in ribeye with crispy home fries. It's easy to see why this restaurant is a fan-favorite.

Elia's

8819 Third Ave., at 86th Street, (718) 748-9891
(AmEx, MC, Visa) Entrées: \$15-\$26.

A whitewashed brick walls, exposed beams and soft Greek music make Elia's a world away in another world — the hustle and bustle of the neighborhood giving way to each step inside.

The restaurant's specialty is Greek food,

including burek, salmon, yellowtail, scallops, fluke, mackerel, flying fish roe, crab stick and many more.

Of course, Bay Ridge Sushi hasn't forgotten all the classics. The menu includes a variety of rolls you can select from their colorful menu. There are many hand rolls, like the shrimp tempura roll and the baked salmon roll. Or try the pork with gyoza or sashimi, maybe the seafood tempura or lobster.

Make sure to leave room for the tempura green tea ice cream!

Hunters Steak & Ale House

8401 Fourth Ave., at 9th Street, (718) 228-8899
(AmEx, Disc, MC, Visa) Entrées: \$5.50-\$17.95.

The classic steakhouse ... with a couple of twists.

Your meal will be enhanced not only by the fresh glaze, but also by the choice of a dessert, either the Horse and Jockey Club (featuring CTB racing feeds and betting).

The Mexican Sandwich Company

8618 Fifth Avenue, at 86th Street, (718) 748-4747
(AmEx, Disc, MC, Visa) Entrées: \$6-\$15.50.

Eighteen years ago, this Japanese Restaurant offered a traditional Japanese menu for lunch and dinner daily. Enjoy Chef Ben Chiu's wide variety of salads, sushi, sashimi, teriyaki and tempura dishes. The menu also includes dim sum, dumplings, gyoza (thickly sliced pork sautéed in ginger sauce), won ton soup (lemon and shrimp in wonton soup), Asian rice, Asian soups, rice, cream, fried bananas and mochi (ice cream, made from sticky rice and offered in a variety of flavors. Lunch menu: \$6-\$10. Dinner menu: \$10-\$17.95. And, Oh my! The Mexican sandwich company is currently offering 50 percent off sandwiches and/or salads all day long.

Pazzo

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Jazz singer

Vocalist Carla Cook discusses the Grammys, Aretha and her Fort Greene garden muse

By Bill Francis
for The Brooklyn Papers

Whenever Carla Cook needs to escape the inharmonious urban vibes of the city, she heads for her secret spot. Luckily, she doesn't have to go far.

With the same inspired effort used to fashion her unique-to-jazz style, the talented vocalist has transformed her Fort Greene backyard into a creative oasis where she can find her muse. "It's time to do another record. That's why I get out here and putter around in my garden, just to sit down and give me a melody," Cook said recently during a breakfast interview in her backyard retreat of carefully selected flat stones and flowers. "I love Brooklyn and this is my favorite spot, right here."

Cook moved to Fort Greene after attending Northeastern University in Boston in 1990.

With three highly praised CDs, including a Grammy nomination for Best Jazz Vocal Performance for her 1999 debut, "It's All About Love" (MAXIAZZ), Cook is one of jazz's rising talents and another prominent name on Brooklyn's increased roster of jazz stars.

Listening to one of Cook's recordings, or better yet, witnessing a live performance, is like opening a box of mouthwatering chocolates — and fresh chocolates. Everything from Ellington and Strayhorn standards, Jobim bossa nova rhythms, gospel, rock, pop country — and of course the Motown sound of her native Detroit — have been sources for the inventive vocalist's unique approach to jazz. She features a violin on her first CD and a trio of trombonists on her second, "Dem Bones" (MAXIAZZ).

"The boundaries that people sometimes set themselves or record labels ... have set that way," says Cook. "But I'm not interested in what they are. I have no interest in that," says Cook, who covered rocker Neil Young's "Heart of Gold" and Marvin Gaye's '60s classic Motown anthem "Inner City Blues" on her debut CD. "The singer-songwriter-artistes have their own kind of music of Eric Clapton and on her most recent CD, "Simply Natural" (MAX-JAZZ) Simon and Garfunkel's "Scarborough Fair."

"For me, if I like the music, can hear an arrangement and can improvise and use all the elements, why not? I've learned over the years to jazz, I do it," she says. "So, yeah, Marvin Gaye

gets to be on my CD, and yes it's a jazz record. And I don't feel like I have to defend that."

Cook bristles at the "eclectic" label often used to describe her wide-ranging music choices. "I mean it's all just music. It's a melody after all," she says.

The majority of the songs she has recorded on her CDs, Cook notes, have been straight-ahead jazz standards "with whatever my twist is on it." There is also, always, a hint of Brazilian rhythms and several of Cook's own compositions, including "Garden Muse."

"And ... all of that?" she adds, "there's at least one place where I'm reaching back into my childhood." Like Bobbie Gentry's '60s hit, "Ode To Billie Joe."

"I must have been 4 or 5 years old," she recalls of the time that she recorded on "Dem Bones."

Being different for the sake of being different doesn't interest Cook, who was singing in the church choir by the time she was 10.

"I grew up in the middle of Detroit with all this other music around me and all mixed with the church choir, so I was lying to myself when I was saying I was a straightie, even if you've got some of a Grammy call. It's the 'nature of the beast,'" says Cook.

"You go through these really ugly, dry periods," says the singer who admits to having experienced "a bad patch" in her life to get through.

"There is the point where you have to be everywhere, there is the point where you don't know how you're going to get it all done. And then try to balance that out. That's the constant struggle ... It's just a matter of hanging in there and patiently waiting."

"Good things have always been happening," says Cook. "I've felt almost charmed. Six months after my first record was out, somebody calls me about a Grammy nomination."

The past year has brought a lot of good things to Cook.

Last December, Aretha Franklin invited Cook to perform at her annual Christmas party in Detroit, for several hundred friends and dignitaries. When the Queen of Soul walked to the stage to request a song, Cook admits, she was "blown away."

In the past few months, Cook, who tours constantly for the love of it (and



Behind the music: Jazz vocalist Carla Cook at home in her Fort Greene garden. She says the tranquil setting inspires her music.

to pay the bills), has performed at the Monterey Jazz Festival in California, the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C., and Lincoln Center in Manhattan. She's also performed this year at most of the city's top jazz clubs.

"I feel like I've been very, very blessed. I have no complaints," says Cook. "Radio has been good to me. I've had positive reviews, and for a jazz musician, decent sales ... Whatever it is that I'm supposed to accomplish in my life, a higher power has it all written out. It's not necessarily in the hands of anybody in this [music] industry."

Cook has been "puttering" in her backyard retreat lately, working on ideas for her much-anticipated fourth CD.

"I want to go a different direction this time," she says. "I just don't know what direction." As for her personal direction, the singer feels that she's not that far away from her ideal life.

"In my entire life, I've never told anybody that I wanted to be a star," she says. "I want to sing."

"In the real world, in a couple years, I'd be married, I'd be very stable. I'd still be creating music. I would be on the road, because I want to be and not because I have to. I'd be healthy and happy, trying to balance it all out."

I'd like to still be recording," Cook adds. "But I'd like to expose myself to some other kinds of things. Like when I was able to do the Sony Playstation game, she provided the voice of an animated character in 'Parappa the Rapper Part II' because it was different from the first."

Which also happens to be two reasons to enjoy Carla Cook's music.

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Susanna Phillips

Where to GO

Compiled by Susan Rosenthal

THURS, Nov 13

FILM: St. Francis College presents "Pirates of the Caribbean," 6 pm, 180 Remsen St., 7th floor, \$15. Free.

WINE TASTING: Michael-Town Wines and Spirits New World Wine Tasting event, 6 pm to 9 pm, Auditorium, 100 Montague St., 55th Street, Tel: (718) 875-3667.

WOMEN'S RIGHTS TALK: Zen Center of NYC presents "A Heroine of Manhattan's Women's Movement," 7 pm, Auditorium, 100 Montague St., Tel: (718) 875-3229. Free.

BARNES AND NOBLE: Philadelphian, 100 Montague St., 7 pm, Auditorium, 100 Montague St., Tel: (718) 244-4996. Free.

SUGAR BLUES: Long Island College, 138 Hicks St., Tel: (718) 780-1677. Free.

COOKING CLASS: Michael-Town Wines and Spirits presents "Cooking Class," 6 pm, 100 Montague St., Tel: (718) 875-3229. Free.

READING GROUP: Brooklyn Public Library, Central branch, presents "The House on Mango Street," by Sandra Cisneros, 7 pm to 8 pm, Avrami Conference Room, 138 Hicks St., Tel: (718) 230-2100. Free.

BARGEMUSIC: presents chamber music, 8 pm, 100 Montague St., Tel: (718) 875-3229. Free.

WORKSHOP THEATER: The Brooklyn College Theater Department presents "Kings & Queens," 6 pm, George Gershwin Theater, Brooklyn College, one block from 100 Montague St., Tel: (718) 951-4600.

PLAY: Charlie Pineapple Theater Company, 100 Montague St., Tel: (718) 244-4996. \$12, 9 pm, 2688 Ninth St., Tel: (718) 907-0577.

NEXT WAVE: "Ray," a dance piece, 7 pm.

IMPACT THEATER: "State of the Union," 8 pm. See Sat., Nov. 15.

FRI, Nov 14

BAMCINEMATEK: "Breaking Rules," New Austrian Cinema series presents "Charly," 7 pm, 100 Montague St., Tel: (718) 875-3229. Free.

EXHIBIT: French Institute American Organization presents its fall exhibit of interior landscapes. Images for sale, 6 pm to 9 pm, 100 Montague St., Tel: (718) 875-3229.

NEW WORKSHOP THEATER: The Brooklyn College Theater Department presents "Kings & Queens," 6 pm, George Gershwin Theater, Brooklyn College, one block from 100 Montague St., Tel: (718) 951-4600.

PLAY: Charlie Pineapple Theater Company, 100 Montague St., Tel: (718) 244-4996. \$12, 9 pm, 2688 Ninth St., Tel: (718) 907-0577.

NEXT WAVE: "Ray," a dance piece, 7 pm.

IMPACT THEATER: "State of the Union," 8 pm. See Sat., Nov. 15.

DINNER & A SHOW: 100 Montague St., Tel: (718) 875-7836. Free.

DINNER & A SHOW: Volmarstein Montgolfier host an awards reception honoring stars of the community, 6 pm to 9 pm, 100 Montague St., Tel: (718) 875-7836. Free.

FUNDRAISER: Bay Ridge Mental Health Center, 7th Annual Fall Auction, refreshments, \$10 to \$75, 7 pm to 9 pm, 8710 Fifth Ave., Tel: (718) 680-0006.

DINNER & A SHOW: 100 Montague St., Tel: (718) 875-7836. Free.

DRUM & DANCE: La Trope Musical Ensemble, 100 Montague St., Tel: (718) 875-3229.

HEIGHTS NOBLE: 100 Montague St., Tel: (718) 875-3229.

COMEDY: Xavier's Dramatics Society presents "Blithe Spirit," 8 pm, 100 Montague St., Tel: (718) 875-3229.

IMPROV THEATER: Presents Pulitzer Prize-winning play "State of the Union," 7 pm, \$12 seniors and students, 8 pm, 100 Montague St., Tel: (718) 875-3229.

HEIGHTS MOON PLAYERS: "Blithe Spirit," by Noel Coward, \$12 seniors, 8 pm, 100 Montague St., Tel: (718) 875-3229.

IMPROV THEATER: "The Moatstrep," the mystery by Agatha Christie, 8 pm, 100 Montague St., Tel: (718) 875-3229.

NEW WORKSHOP THEATER: The Brooklyn College Theater Department presents "Kings & Queens," 6 pm, George Gershwin Theater, Brooklyn College, one block from 100 Montague St., Tel: (718) 951-4600.

PLAY: Charlie Pineapple Theater Company, 100 Montague St., Tel: (718) 244-4996. \$12, 9 pm, 2688 Ninth St., Tel: (718) 907-0577.

NEXT WAVE: "Ray," a dance piece, 7 pm.

SEE SAT., NOV. 15: "State of the Union," 8 pm. See Sat., Nov. 15.

NEW THEATER WORKSHOP: Brooklyn College Department of Theatre presents "Kewes in Her," 8 pm. See Sat., Nov. 15.

SAT, Nov 15

OUTDOORS AND TOURS

TOURING: Sunflower Tours hosts a walk around Park Slope. Learn about the area's architecture and visit stores along 10th Street. Meet at 10th and Montague, 10 am to 1 pm. Meet outside Bergen Street train station, 10th Street, Tel: (718) 884-2000.

PROSPECT LEFFERTS GARDENS: Brooklyn Center for the Urban Environment takes a tour of Prospect Lefferts Gardens, a neighborhood that once was farmland. Learn why landmarked neighborhoods are restricted to family members only. \$15, \$10 for seniors and students, 2 pm to 4 pm. Meet outside Prospect Lefferts Gardens, 100 Montague St., Tel: (718) 788-8500, ext. 202.

PERFORMANCE

NEW WORKSHOP THEATER: Brooklyn College Department of Theatre presents "Kings & Queens," 6 pm, 100 Montague St., Tel: (718) 875-3229.

SOLO WORKS SHOW: Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts, 100 Montague St., Tel: (718) 875-3229.

PAUL HAGGAN: "Night Out," features works by Beethoven, Rachmaninoff, Mozart and Chopin. 7 pm to 8 pm, 56 Seventh Ave., Tel: (718) 622-3300.

BARGEMUSIC: presents chamber music, 8 pm, 100 Montague St., Tel: (718) 875-3229.

ST. ANN'S WAREHOUSE: presents Mahou Mines' "Dollhouse," \$22, 5:30 pm, St. Ann's Warehouse, 38 Water St., Tel: (718) 254-8779.

NEXT WAVE: Brooklyn Academy of Music presents "The Next Wave Festival," by Steve Reich, \$50, \$25, 7 pm, Howard Gilman Opera House, 30 Lafayette Ave., Tel: (718) 636-4141.

CONCERT: Brooklyn Hill Arts Center presents The Essen Dojyon Trio, 7 pm, 490 Pacific St., Tel: (718) 635-9865. Free.

LIST YOUR EVENT...

To list your event in Where to GO, please give us as much notice as possible. Send your listing by mail to: GO Brooklyn, The Brooklyn Papers, 26 Court St., Ste. 506, Brooklyn, NY 11242; or by fax: (718) 834-9278. Listings are free and printed on a space available basis. We regret we cannot take listings over the phone.



Brooklyn poets Natalie Handal (pictured) and Myra Shapiro will read from their works Nov. 18 at the Brooklyn Heights Public Library.

MUSIC: Park Slope Methodist Church presents with AMG Quartet and Pavel Bezalel, 7 pm, 100 Montague St., Tel: (718) 875-3229.

YOGA: Brooklyn Arts Exchange hosts "Yoga and Women's Health Day," \$50, 2 pm to 5 pm, 100 Montague St., Tel: (718) 875-3229.

AUCTION: Scandinavian East Coast Museum hosts its annual event, \$20 includes dinner, 6 pm to 9 pm, Bethel Lutheran Church, Ovington and Fourth avenues, (718) 748-5950.

BOOK SIGNING: "Breaking Rules: New Austrian Cinema" series presents "Love Rita," (2001), \$10, 2 pm and 6:30 pm. Also, "Megacities" (1998), 9 pm, 100 Montague St., Tel: (718) 875-3229.

FILMS: Green-Wood Partnership presents "Charlotte's Web," \$5. 3 pm. Also, "Older Than Birds," \$5, 6 pm, 100 Montague St., Tel: (718) 875-3229.

JEWISH FILMS: Congregation Beth Elohim hosts a film festival. Today, "Amen," a story of the 1948 war in Israel, 7 pm, 274 Garfield Place, Tel: (718) 748-5950.

PARTY: Congregation Mount Sinai hosts its annual silent auction and cocktail party, Open Bar, 6 pm to 9 pm, 100 Montague St., Tel: (718) 875-3229.

ODE TO FRANK: Monte's Venetian Room presents "Ode to Frank," 7 pm, 100 Montague St., Tel: (718) 875-3229.

DRUM & DANCE: La Trope Musical Ensemble, 100 Montague St., Tel: (718) 875-3229.

ARTS: Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts presents "Blithe Spirit," 8 pm, 100 Montague St., Tel: (718) 875-3229.

BRIC PICKS: Bric Studio presents Bulgarian choreographed performance Antonina Katchanova, 8 pm, 100 Montague St., Tel: (718) 875-3229.

SHILOH: Natalie Handal and Myra Shapiro will read from their works Nov. 18 at the Brooklyn Heights Public Library.

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Three-liners

That humble poetry form, haiku, gets its day in the sun at Southpaw

By Alex Christodoulides

for The Brooklyn Papers

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Where to GO...

Continued from page GO 4...

Church offers a structured group. Eight sessions, 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm, 6th Floor, St. Paul's Bay. **LECTURE SERIES:** Congregation B'nai Avraham talk "Who Are We?" 7:15 pm, Nov. 17, 180 Remsen St. (718) 596-8484. Free.

TUES., NOV. 19

JURY EXPERIENCE: Commission of Public Hearing. Private hearing on proposed rezoning to several issues including efficient use of jurors' time and how the process can be improved. Jury: 1 pm to 4:30 pm, 180 Remsen St. (718) 489-5272. Free.

FILM SCREENING: Free. **LECTURE SERIES:** Congregation B'nai Avraham talk "Who Are We?" 7:15 pm, Nov. 17, 180 Remsen St. (718) 596-8484. Free.

TIFF CONCERT: Long Island University presents "Gershwin's Jack Wilkins." 4 pm. Spike Lee Avenue Extension and Spike Lee Avenue Extension and Spike Lee Avenue, 180 Remsen St. (718) 488-1668. Free.

DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION: Development Corporation hosts "The Next Step" panel discussion class plans for the future. 3 pm to 9:30 pm, St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 10th Floor, St. Peter's, 243 Congress St. 10 am to 4 pm, Nov. 19. \$10. (718) 852-5257.

MONEY TALK: Brooklyn Community Hosts a series: "Bring Me to the Bank: Building and Managing Your Financial Future." Save \$10. 6:30 pm, 266 Lefferts Ave., Nov. 19. \$10. Free.

BRONX POETS: Reading by Nathan Handal and Myriam S. 6:30 pm to 8 pm, Brooklyn Public Library, Brooklyn Heights Branch, 100 Hicks St., West. (718) 623-7100. Free.

BAMCINEMATEK: New Austrian Cinema presents "Eldorado." Shorts, 7 pm, Nov. 19. \$10. Lafayette Ave. (718) 432-4100.

REBIRTH TALK: Brooklyn Public Library, Central branch, hosts "The Big Authors." Guest is author Lawrence Buell. American Book Award winner Robert Vilder. 7 pm, Nov. 19. \$5. (718) 623-4100.

ST. ANN'S WAREHOUSE: presents a party for the Seal Press book launch of "Women at 126 Front St. (718) 243-9005.

ART READING: Jonathan Lethem, author of "Fortress of Solitude," reads, 5:30-7 pm. The Brooklyn Academy of Music, 301 St. (718) 624-5271.

HOMEOWNER TALK: NeighborWorks' Homeowner Services offers a talk for first-time homeowners interested in buying a home. 7:30 pm. 1 Hansel Place. Call to register. \$10. 7 pm only. Free.

RECEPTION: Kentler International Drawing Space presents "80 Years of Drawing: The Artist's Book." 6 pm to 9 pm. The Brooklyn Academy of Music, 301 St. (718) 624-5271.

NEXT WAVE: Brooklyn Academy of Music presents dance work, "Cloud Gate." 8 pm to 9 pm. The Cloud Gate Dance Theater of Taiwan, \$50, \$35, \$20, 7:30 pm. 301 St. (718) 624-5271.

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ST. ANN'S WAREHOUSE: presents "Mabou Minx: 'Dollhouse,'" \$27.50, 7:30 pm, St. Ann's Warehouse, 30 Water St. (718) 254-2879.

WEDS., NOV. 19

LECTURE: St. Francis College talk, "From Lewis and Clark to the Space Age: Two Wars in the Making of America." 7 pm, Nov. 19, 6 to 1:45 pm, 180 Remsen St. (718) 489-5272. Free.

FILM SCREENING: Free. **LECTURE SERIES:** Congregation B'nai Avraham talk "Who Are We?" 7:15 pm, Nov. 17, 180 Remsen St. (718) 596-8484. Free.

TUFS., NOV. 19

IMMIGRATION LAW: Brooklyn Bar Association, 6 pm to 8 pm, Brooklyn Bar Association Meeting Hall, 123 Remsen St. (718) 489-5272. Free.

GALA BENEFIT: Cobble Hill Health Center annual fundraiser. Honorees include the late honorees newly-inducted members of the Bass Hall of Fame, and the late Dr. John H. Gutfreund. 6 pm, Parish Hall, 157 Montague St. (718) 623-5940. Free.

WORDMUSIC SERIES: Readings by Tracy Smith, Wendy Wasser and Ellis Avery. 7:30 pm. Hotel Indigo, 100 Remsen St. (718) 260-WAVY. Free.

BARGEMUSIC: presents an all-ages concert. \$35, 7:30 pm. Fulton Ferry Landing. (718) 623-4100.

ST. ANN'S WAREHOUSE: presents "Rear Window" (1954), 2 pm. Parish Hall, 157 Montague St. (718) 623-5940. Free.

PLAY: "Dann" and the Deep Blue Sea." 9 pm. See Sat., Nov. 15.

PLAY: "Dann" and the Deep Blue Sea." 9 pm. See Sat., Nov. 15.

THURS., NOV. 20

CONFERENCE: Brooklyn College Institute for Child and Adult Development presents "The Psychologist Program hosts "The Big Authors." Guest is author Lawrence Buell. American Book Award winner Robert Vilder. 7 pm, Nov. 20. \$5. (718) 951-9511.

LIBRARY TALK: Brooklyn Public Library, Central branch, hosts "The Big Authors." Guest is author Lawrence Buell. American Book Award winner Robert Vilder. 7 pm, Nov. 20. \$5. (718) 951-9511.

ST. ANN'S WAREHOUSE: presents a party for the Seal Press book launch of "Women at 126 Front St. (718) 243-9005.

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Victory Memorial Stroke Center

Victory Memorial Hospital

Donald DiCunto, president of Victory Memorial Hospital in Bay Ridge has announced the opening of a new Stroke Center that provides a specialized team of emergency physicians, neurologists, radiologists, nurses and radiologic technicians, available 24 hours a day, in order to diagnose and treat victims of stroke.

The newly opened Stroke Center offers patients immediate medical attention by experienced, professional team that can move quickly, following the appearance of the warning signs of a stroke. Dr. DiCunto says, "Victory can now avail itself of excellent treatment, close to home, which can prevent death or serious disability."

Hospital administrator Kristine Brattner said, "Victory Memorial has been selected by the New York State Department of Health as a designated stroke center as part of the DO/FONDE pilot program."

"We plan to make the facility one of the best of its kind in the city," he said.

Stroke is the third leading

cause of death, following heart disease and cancer, and the leading cause of adult disability.

Victory Memorial is now able to offer emergency

intervention for the most common type of stroke that is caused by blood clots. In selected patients whose symptoms are recognized early, aggressive medical therapy, started in the Emergency Department, can reverse the damaging effects of stroke.

Signs of a stroke include

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